

# Lucas AND Stephanie



Hello!

We thank you for looking at our profile and learning more about us. We look forward to meeting you as well. I think we all will discover that this journey comes with a great deal of bravery, patience, compassion, and hope. Adoption is a brave decision, so we admire your courage, patience, and compassion to work through a loving parenting plan. It would be our honor to help you with this plan so that together we can give what is the very best for this child.

*Sincerely,*

*Lucas & Stephanie*

# OUR STORY



*Stephanie and Lucas met in Texas. In 2017, they moved to South Dakota for better work and family opportunities.*



Our story begins when we met through my parents. I needed to interview someone in the construction business for a school assignment. My parents suggested Lucas, a general contractor, whom they had met at church. The meeting was not only successful, but so was our love for each other. We were married on November 14, 2015.



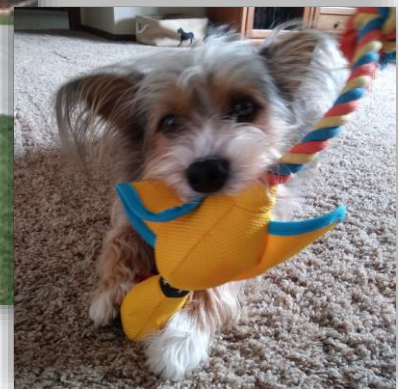
Our relationship is grounded in a **strong sense of faith and family**, especially children. We spent the first year of our marriage trying to conceive and working through some fertility challenges. Fortunately, this time also opened our hearts to adoption and the gift of loving a child that is not biologically our own.

Gibbs was a surprise gift to me from Lucas. Gibbs is a very important part of our family. He is a two--year old mixed breed who loves to play fetch, go on long walks, and swim. He absolutely loves little people and can't wait to have a little human brother or sister.



*Our first family Thanksgiving picture with Gibbs*

## GIBBS





# STEPHANIE



Stephanie was raised in Texas surrounded by a big extended family. She has one brother, who unfortunately died in combat in August of 2008. Stephanie works part-time at a Lutheran school and looks forward to being a stay-at-home mom. Stephanie has a bachelor's degree in Spanish and a master's degree in Organizational Leadership.

Her favorite hobbies include running, hiking, and being outdoors with her family.

# LUCAS



Lucas was raised on a working ranch, helping his dad care for cattle and land. Lucas has four siblings and a large extended family. He is also a third-generation Marine. Lucas is retired from the Marine Corps and owns a construction company. In 2017, he received a Bachelor of Science in Information Technology.

His favorite hobbies include cooking, woodworking, and being outdoors with his family.

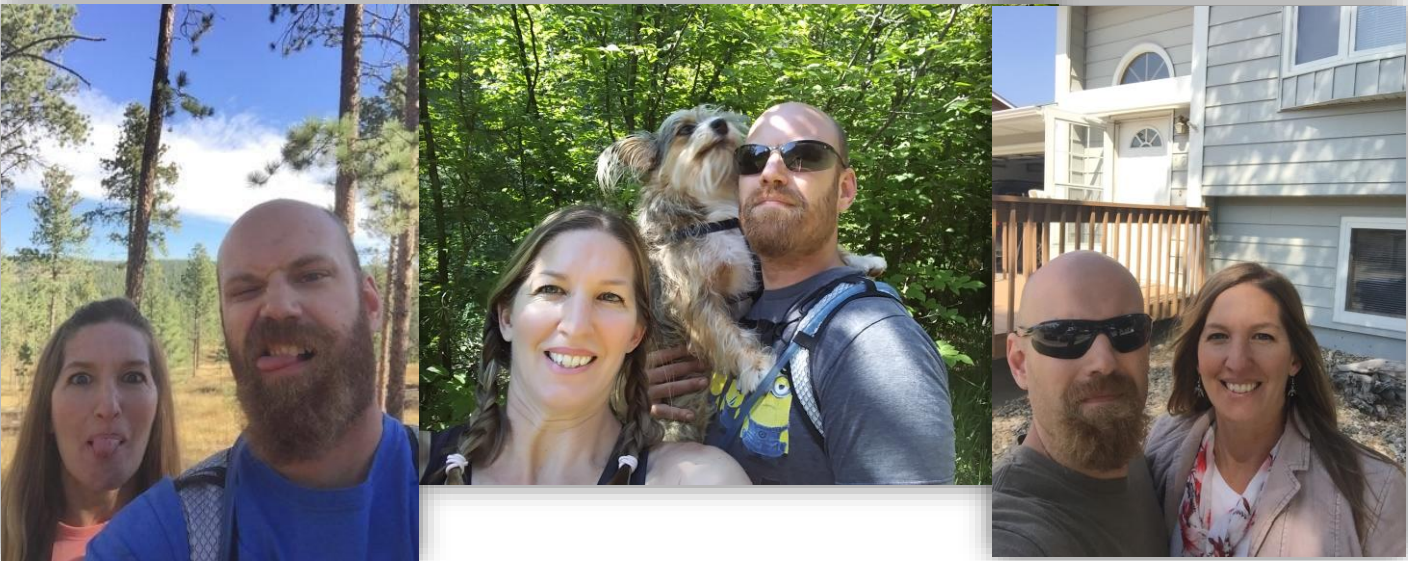
Lucas and Stephanie are very passionate about serving their community. This service includes helping the church, school, and military.



*Building a deck for a reservation church in Montana*



*The M&M Mobile for church fundraiser*



# OUR FAVORITE THINGS

If you were to visit us on any given weekend, you would find Lucas in the kitchen preparing and making lots of food. From BBQ to sausage making, he loves to cook! I love being outdoors, especially hiking on the trails with Gibbs.

Together, we enjoy outdoor adventures in the Black Hills and home improvement projects. I am creative and design the pieces...while keeping my skilled carpenter close by. Lucas makes my designs come to life!

Sundays are dedicated to church and family. We live in a quiet, family-friendly community. We also live a few blocks from our church. Therefore, it is easy to spend the day socializing with friends and family. Sunday is also "Chicken Wing Sunday"! As Lucas prepares the meal, Gibbs and I get the table ready!



Lucas firing up the grill on a Sunday afternoon



Custom-made chalkboard and photo frames



Stephanie & Gibbs taking a break on the trails



# OUR FUTURE



Preparing the nursery has been a very important part of our adoption journey. Lucas is custom-building the crib and changing table, while Stephanie is focusing on creating a fun, yet nurturing environment. The theme is Noah's Ark, and our motto is "Let Them Be Little."

As hopeful parents, we want to

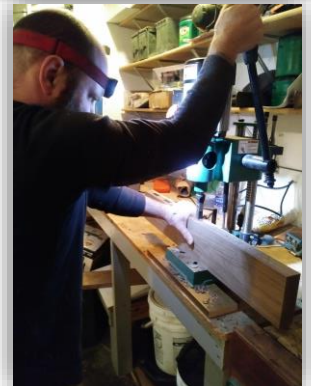
- encourage our child to have fun and explore the great outdoors,
- teach our child about unconditional love and serving others,
- share our love for books and learning,
- surround him/her with family and friends that share our Christian beliefs and values,
- provide a good education and higher learning opportunities, and
- laugh and enjoy life to the fullest!



*Cutting the tenons*



*Custom-designed and built crib*



*Cutting mortis to join wood pieces*